KROGER CO Form 3 January 13, 2017

FORM 3

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement KROGER CO [KR] COSSET YAEL (Month/Day/Year) 01/13/2017 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) C/O THE KROGER CO., Â 1014 (Check all applicable) VINE STREET (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group 10% Owner Director _X__ Officer Other Filing(Check Applicable Line) (give title below) (specify below) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Group Vice President Person CINCINNATI, OHÂ 45202 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 5) (Instr. 4) Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Â Common Stock D 31,725 Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not

required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of	5. Ownership Form of Derivative	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Title			(111341. 3)
			•	
	Expiration Date	Expiration Date Securities Underlying (Month/Day/Year) Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	Expiration Date Securities Underlying Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Derivative Security or Exercise (Instr. 4) Price of Derivative	Expiration Date Securities Underlying Conversion Ownership Derivative Security or Exercise Form of (Instr. 4) Price of Derivative Derivative Security:

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date		Amount or Number of Shares		or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(1)	07/15/2025	Common Stock	13,992	\$ 38.33	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(1)	07/13/2026	Common Stock	18,130	\$ 37.48	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option	(1)	09/15/2026	Common Stock	6,632	\$ 31.25	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address			Relationships	
•	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
COSSET YAEL C/O THE KROGER CO. 1014 VINE STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202	Â	Â	Group Vice President	Â

Signatures

/s/ Yael Cosset, by Stacey M. Heiser, Attorney-in-Fact

01/13/2017

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) These options were granted under a long-term incentive plan of The Kroger Co. and vest in equal annual installments in whole amounts over a five-year period, at the rate of 20% per year commencing one year from the date of the grant.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *See* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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